

**DRAFT Minutes of Beaver Island Telecommunication Advisory Committee Meeting  
Peaine and St James Township, Beaver Island  
Meeting in person and videoconference – March 17, 2022, 4:30 pm at BIC Center**

**Present**

Kevin Boyle, Theresa McDonough, Vicki Smith, Gary Conant, Dick Mulvihill

**Absent**

Julie Gillespie, Neal Green

**ON ZOOM**

Wil Cwikiel, Chris Sorenson, Christian Picciolini, George Broder, Nathan Altman

Meeting called to order at 4:38pm. Motion to approve minutes and agenda by McDonough, Smith second, unanimous.

**Monday Service Outage**

Boyle has been unable to find out any information on why this occurred. He would like to draft a letter to send to TDS for an explanation on why we were without 911 coverage, internet or long distance for almost 6 hours. McDonough will assist.

**Pools of Service/U.P. Link**

Boyle has been working with JT Tower and is waiting to hear their schedule. The application license has been filed and we do have operating authority.

Discussion on invoice and payment. Do we need a different fiscal agent?

**Plan B & C Discussion/NTIA Grant**

We did not receive the NTIA Grant. In fact, no one in Michigan received any grant money from this source. American Rescue Plan may still be an option. If money is still available, are we included with our local county? The FCC data continues to be an issue as it is inaccurate. Boyle shares his Starlink experience at Altman farm. There are many people on the island that have Starlink which solidifies the point that islanders do want better service, they are willing to pay at least \$100 a month and they are willing to wait for the product/service.

Boyle would like to review the previous costs for building our own fiber and spend some time updating it.

**Lansing Trip**

Cwikiel gave an update on the new Deputy for Rural Development at the Lansing office. It is Sarah Lucas and she has an impressive resume previously working as the CEO of the Lake Superior Community Partnership and Community Development Director for Networks Northwest. We think she might be familiar with Beaver Island! Cwikiel will work on setting up trip details. Please let him know if you are interested in joining.

Meeting closes at 5:17 pm. Motion by McDonough, second by Conant. Unanimous.

**Next Meeting Date:** April 21, 2022 at the BIC Center, 4:30 pm.